UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHEN DISTRICT OF INDIANA SOUTH BEND DIVISION

CELINA MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY)
Plaintiff,)
v.) Cause No.:
TERRY LEONARD, by his guardian, JACQUELINE BONDS, OLIVE ONE STOP SHOP INC. d/b/a GOLO and OLIVE FOOD MART, INC.))))
Defendants.)

CELINA MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY'S COMPLAINT FOR DECLARTORY JUDGMENT

Plaintiff, Celina Mutual Insurance Company ("Celina"), by counsel, for its Complaint for Declaratory Judgment against Defendants, Terry Leonard, by his guardian Jacqueline Bonds, Olive One Stop Shop, Inc., d/b/a GoLo and Olive Food Mart, Inc., states:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. This is a civil action for declaratory and other relief brought pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2201 and Fed. R. Civ. P. 57 to determine a controversy between Plaintiff Celina and Defendants, arising out of an insurance contract.
- 2. The Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332 because this action involves citizens of different states and the amount in controversy, without interest and costs, exceeds the value specified by 28 U.S.C. § 1332 (\$75,000).
- 3. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), venue is proper in this district because the Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants, Terry Leonard and Jacqueline Bonds, whose residences are in this district.

4. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), venue is proper in this district because the events or omissions giving rise to this lawsuit occurred in this district.

PARTIES

- 5. Plaintiff Celina is a corporation subject to Ohio's corporation laws and incorporated under the laws of the State of Ohio with its principal place of business in Celina, Mercer County, Ohio. Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3941.01 et seq. and primarily Ohio Rev. Code Ann. § 3941.26. Thus, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332(c)(1), Celina is a citizen of the State of Ohio.
 - 6. Defendant Terry Leonard is a citizen of Indiana.
 - 7. Defendant Jacqueline Bonds is a citizen of Indiana.
- 8. Olive One Stop Shop Inc. d/b/a GoLo is an administratively dissolved Indiana corporation. It is no longer a party to the Lawsuit described below and the claims against it have been resolved by the entry of final judgment.
- 9. Olive Food Mart, Inc. is an administratively dissolved Indiana corporation. But for diversity purposes, it is a citizen of Indiana.

BACKGROUND

- 10. Celina issued a Businessowners Policy No. 7286298-0 with a policy period of June 14, 2019 through June 14, 2020 to Olive Food Mart, Inc. d/b/a as Go Lo ("the Celina Policy"). A true and accurate copy of the Celina Policy is attached as Exhibit 1.
- 11. On or about October 19, 2021, Terry A. Leonard, by his Guardian Jacqueline Bonds, filed an Amended Complaint against Olive One Stop Shop, Inc. d/b/a GoLo and Olive Food Mart, Inc. under cause no. 71D04-2103-CT-000092 in the St. Joseph County, Indiana Superior Court ("the Lawsuit"). A true and accurate copy of the Amended Complaint in the Lawsuit is attached as Exhibit 2.

- 12. The Lawsuit alleges that on April 11, 2020, Terry A. Leonard was an invitee at the GoLo located at 421 North Olive Street, South Bend, Indiana Exhibit 2 at ¶ 1.
- 13. The Lawsuit further alleges that Terry A. Leonard was on the premises of the Defendant, GoLo, when Terry Leonard was recklessly and carelessly struck in the head by an unknown assailant in a drive-by shooting. Exhibit 2 at ¶ 2.
- 14. The Lawsuit further alleges that Olive One Stop Shop, Inc. and/or Olive Food Mart, Inc., by its employees and/or agents failed to use reasonable care to provide adequate supervision and a safe environment for its invitees. Exhibit 2 at ¶ 4.
- 15. The Lawsuit further alleges that as a direct and proximate result of Olive One Stop Shop, Inc. and/or Olive Food Mart, Inc.'s negligence, Terry A. Leonard suffered injuries and damages. Exhibit 2 at ¶ 5.
- 16. On December 15, 2021, Olive One Stop Shop, Inc. d/b/a GoLo and Olive Food Mart, Inc., by counsel, filed its Answer and Affirmative Defenses. A true and accurate copy of the Answer in the Lawsuit is attached as Exhibit 3.
- 17. A Motion for Consent Judgment was filed in the Lawsuit and on May 15, 2023, the Court issued its Judgment in the amount of \$2,500,000.00 against Olive Food Mart, Inc. only and ordered the clerk to enter final judgment. A true and accurate copy of the Judgment in the Lawsuit is attached as Exhibit 4.
- 18. On June 12, 2023, Terry Leonard and Jacqueline Bonds filed a Proceedings Supplementary in the Lawsuit and named Celina as a Garnishee-Defendant. A true and accurate copy of the Proceeding Supplementary in the Lawsuit is attached as Exhibit 5.
- 19. On or about June 23, 2023, Celina was notified that it was named as a Garnishee-Defendant. This was Celina's first notice of the Lawsuit or the claims against its insured.

- 20. On June 30, 2023, Celina, by counsel, filed its Notice of Removal of the Proceeding Supplementary in the Lawsuit. A true and accurate copy of the Notice of Removal is attached as Exhibit 6.
- 21. On July 11, 2023, Celina issued a denial letter to Olive Food Mart, Inc. A true an accurate copy of the denial letter is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 7</u>.
- 22. On October 23, 2023, Celina filed its Motion to Dismiss under Case No. 3:23-cv-619-DRL-MGG. A true and accurate copy of the Motion to Dismiss is attached as Exhibit 8.
- 23. On November 7, 2023, this Court denied Celina's Motion to Dismiss. A true and accurate copy of the November 7, 2023 Order is attached as Exhibit 9.
- 24. On December 7, 2023, this Court issued an Order accepting jurisdiction and granting the Motion for Proceeding Supplementary. The Court ordered Celina, by its authorized representatives, to appear in person on January 24, 2024 to answer as to Olive Food's nonexempt property subject to proceedings supplemental. A true and accurate copy of the December 9, 2023 Order is attached as Exhibit 10.
 - 25. Celina plans to appear, with counsel, at the hearing set for December 7, 2023.
- 26. There exists a present and existing controversy concerning coverage under the Celina Policy for the claims against Olive Food Mart, Inc. in the Lawsuit and Celina's obligations as it relates to the Judgment against Olive Food Mart Inc.
- 27. Celina has named all parties to the Lawsuit so that they may answer to their interests, and so that they will be bound by any determination made by the Court on Celina's Complaint for Declaratory Judgment.

COUNT I- NO POLICY IN EFFECT

- 28. Celina incorporates its allegations contained in paragraphs 1-25 as if fully set forth herein.
- 29. On December 19, 2019, Celina issued to Olive Food Mart Inc. a Notice of Cancellation related to the Celina Policy indicating that the Policy would cancel effective December 31, 2019 at 12:01 A.M. Standard Time. A true and accurate copy of the Notice of Cancellation is attached as Exhibit 11.
 - 30. The Celina Policy canceled December 31, 2019 at 12:01 A.M. Standard Time.
- 31. After the Celina Policy canceled, Celina issued its Termination Notice to Olive Food Mart Inc. A true and accurate copy of the Termination Notice is attached as Exhibit 12.
- 32. The Celina Policy was not in effect on the date of the incident, April 11, 2020, alleged in the Amended Complaint.
- 33. Celina seeks a judicial declaration that it owes no coverage for the claims against Olive Food Mart, Inc., in the Lawsuit under the Celina Policy and has no obligation to pay the Judgment against Olive Food Mart, Inc. because there was no policy in effect on the date of the loss.

COUNT II – OTHER TERMS

- 34. Celina incorporates its allegations contained in paragraphs 1- 31 as if fully set forth herein.
- 35. Celina seeks a judicial declaration that there is no coverage under the Celina Policy for the claims alleged against Olive Food Mart Inc. in the Lawsuit under any other terms, conditions, exclusions, limitations, and endorsements of the Celina Policy that may apply.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Celina Mutual Insurance Company, respectfully requests that the Court issue a judgment determining and declaring:

- a. There is no coverage under the Celina Policy for any claims against Olive Food
 Mart Inc. arising out of the allegations in the Lawsuit.
- Celina is relieved from any obligation to pay the judgment against Olive Food Mart
 Inc. in the Lawsuit.
- c. all other appropriate relief.

Dated: 1/19/2024

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Anna M. Mallon

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